

for others. In addition to his academic pursuits, Johnny is driven by his passion for football. Johnny has played for three years with the MAR-JCC Mo Steel Flag Football Team, and last year he participated in the national championships. Johnny's love of sports and compassion for others led him to organize a sports equipment drive for his Mitzvah project. Johnny and his friend, Jake Moss, collected new and gently-used sports gear for donation to a local children's charity, thereby expanding opportunities for less fortunate children.

We join together in wishing "Mazel Tov" to Johnny. We also wish him every success in his promising future as he continues his personal and academic pursuits. It is with great pleasure that we honor him on his special day.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD "RUSTY"
WASHINGTON ROSE III

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning with a sense of grief to acknowledge the passing of one of the most gracious and giving citizens to have ever lived in North Texas. Edward "Rusty" Washington Rose III, a philanthropist, a brilliant financial genius, a conservationist and former owner of the Texas Rangers Baseball team has taken his leave. He was 74 years old.

A graduate of the Harvard Business School, Mr. Rose donated millions of dollars to worthy causes. While giving with an abundant heart, he preferred to stay out of the limelight. For him, it was enough to know that he had helped someone or that his giving had enriched the city of Dallas, culturally, socially and economically.

Ten years ago. Mr. Rose, his wife. Deedie, and two other Dallas couples donated portions of their personal art collections to the Dallas Museum of Art. The bequest was valued at \$25 million.

The couples agreed that at their deaths, their extensively valuable art collections would be given to the museum. Among his personal donations was a \$10 million gift to assist in building the AT&T Performing Arts Center in Dallas which has become the anchor of cultural activity in North Texas.

In many respects Mr. Rose was a simple man. His major passion was bird watching, an activity he began as a young boy. On his ranch he created a bird sanctuary and wetlands. Often, he invited friends and colleagues to join him as the birds he had cared for soared skyward and migrated to the North.

Mr. Speaker, like the birds he nurtured, Mr. Rose possessed a mind, a character and a spirit that took flight and soared beyond the sky. My condolences go out to his wife, children and grandchild. The people of North Texas were blessed that he chose to walk and work amongst us.

RECOGNIZING THE GREATER COMMUNITY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ON 25 YEARS OF WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Greater Community Missionary Baptist Church on their 25 years of worship and fellowship in Arlington, Texas and the surrounding community.

The founding congregants of Greater Community MBC heard their call to worship in 1991. Reverend Kennedy Jones first led a group of twenty-two founding members and began holding services at the Harvest Time Church on Cooper Street in Arlington. Beginning with a single Sunday afternoon service, the Greater Community family quickly outgrew its original location. During its first year, Greater Community MBC purchased the property where the church now resides at 126 East Park Row.

Construction on the new church was completed in 1993. The then 60 member strong congregation moved into its new building and continued to grow rapidly. By the end of 1996, there were 300 regular members, three choirs, a whole host of new deacons and the seeds of some of the Arlington community's most effective ministries were planted.

From its humble beginnings as a small church with a single afternoon service, Greater Community Missionary Baptist Church now holds three separate services at both their east and west campuses, and is home to over 1500 members. With their expanded ministry offerings, Greater Community continues to serve the Arlington community in a variety of ways.

Greater Community Missionary Baptist Church has maintained its commitment to growing its ministry through works of love and service. As described in Ephesians 4:12, Greater Community Missionary Baptist Church has been and will continue "to equip His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."

In honor of Greater Community Missionary Baptist Church and its 25 years of service to the Arlington community, this statement will be submitted on Monday, February 1, 2016.

THE FAIRNESS TO UNITED STATES DISTANT WATER FISHERMEN ACT OF 2016

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, for 28 years the United States has been a party to the Treaty on Fisheries Between the Governments of Certain Pacific Island States and the Government of the United States of America. At the time of its development, the Treaty resolved maritime boundary disputes and secured access for United States fishermen to tuna stocks wherever they migrated beyond the coastal waters of Pacific Island nations. To provide such access, multi-year fishing agree-

ments were established, where vessel owners could pay for a license to access the Treaty area, roughly ten million square miles of the South Pacific Ocean.

In addition to the industry license payments, the Treaty includes a related Economic Assistance Agreement between the United States and the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency. The economic assistance usually ran in conjunction with the multi-year fishing agreement. Up until 2013, when a 10-year Economic Assistance Agreement of \$21 million a year was adopted. It is important to stress that the economic assistance does not occur on its own; it has always been tied to United States fishermen fishing in the Treaty area.

Multi-year fishing agreements were fairly stable under the Treaty for the first 25 years, with the last 10-year agreement expiring in 2013. Since then, the United States and the Island nations have only been able to agree on annual agreements, the last few being detrimental to United States-flag vessels due to lower tuna prices and payment for unused fishing days causing economic hardship. The most recent nonbinding agreement was developed in August 2015, and has been under month's long discussion between the Department of State and the Pacific Island Forum Fisheries Agency regarding the final number of fishing days the United States and its industry will be paying for in 2016.

Since January 1, 2016, United States-flag vessels have been banned from the Treaty fishing area, even though the United States Government paid \$21 million in economic assistance in June 2015, which covers through June 2016. Thirty-seven United States-flag vessels are impacted by the ban and are losing money every day the vessels are tied up. The impact on the United States-flag fleet cannot be minimized. The viability of these United States companies and American jobs are at stake.

For that reason, I am introducing the Fairness to United States Distant Water Fishermen Act of 2016. The bill would prohibit the United States Government from providing economic assistance payments to the Pacific Island Forum Fisheries Agency, when there is no Treaty agreement allowing United States-flag vessels access to the Treaty area.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
LIEUTENANT COLONEL WALTER
L. MCCREARY, USAF (RETIRED)

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Lieutenant Colonel Walter L. McCreary, USAF (Retired), for his bravery and service to this nation.

Lt. Col. McCreary served this nation as one of the original Tuskegee Airmen and in a time of deep racial division, when many of the very citizens he defended would see him treated as a second-class citizen. It is in part because of the determined perseverance and success of the Tuskegee Airmen as the most efficient fighter group in the 15th Air Force that President Harry Truman integrated all branches of the armed forces in 1948.

Lt. Col. McCreary entered the Civilian Pilot Training Program in 1941 and flew a Waco biplane. He joined the Tuskegee program as a

cadet the next year. He earned his military wings after nine months of training, in March 1943 as a second lieutenant. In his 89 missions as a fighter pilot and as part of the 100th Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group he flew over France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Romania, Greece, Hungary, and Yugoslavia.

It was in 1944 during a strafing mission over Lake Balaton in Romania that he took flak from German anti-aircraft artillery, ultimately parachuting to the ground before being turned over by local farmers to the German military. He was transferred to Stalag Luft III, a prisoner of war camp specifically designated for airmen. He was liberated from the camp along with all other prisoners in May 1945.

Lt. Col. McCreary returned home from his time as a prisoner of war in Germany and continued his service within the armed forces for nearly two more decades. His commitment and the historic contributions of the Tuskegee Airmen in the face of institutionalized discrimination were recognized in 2007 with the Congressional Gold Medal.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me once more in recognizing the extraordinary contributions of Lt. Col. Walter McCreary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on January 6, 2016, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On roll call no. 2, 3, 4 and 5, I would have voted YES.

On January 7, 2016, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On roll call no. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19, I would have voted NO. On roll call no. 12 and 20, I would have voted YES.

On January 8, 2016, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On roll call no. 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32, I would have voted NO. On roll call no. 21, 22 and 33, I would have voted YES.

On January 11, 2016, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On roll call no. 34 and 35, I would have voted YES.

RECOGNIZING MRS. ISABEL OPORT NEIDIG

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Isabel Oport Neidig. On February 5, Mrs. Neidig will celebrate her 100th birthday.

Born in Morelia, Mrs. Neidig saw the height of the Mexican Revolution. Her parents chose to leave Mexico shortly after her birth and moved to the United States.

At the age of 15, Mrs. Neidig moved back to Mexico where she pursued her passion for education. She taught elementary and middle school students, and played a critical role in having a high school built in Jojutla. She was the only bilingual teacher and referred to, by both students and parents, as "La Teacher". It is the hard work Mrs. Neidig embodies daily that makes America exceptional. She has shown true leadership in her profession and community.

Mrs. Neidig went on to marry Edward William Neidig and had two sons, Andres and David. She left Jojutla in 1962 for Colorado, where she still lives. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my best wishes to Mrs. Neidig as she celebrates her birthday.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Mrs. Neidig.

IN MEMORIAM DON W. STRAUCH JR. APRIL 8, 1926—JANUARY 11, 2016

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Don W. Strauch Jr. (Mayor Strauch), Mayor of Mesa, AZ from 1980–1984, Mesa City Council Member from 1972–1978 and Arizona State Representative from 1987–1988. In 2003, Mayor Strauch was inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame for his service in the U.S. Army during World War II, his work with the American Legion, VFW, and his contributions as a civic leader.

Mayor Strauch was instrumental in creating the Mesa that we know today. He launched the Mesa Sister Cities program and championed the proposed Mesa Arts Center; he broke down walls of discrimination and advanced civil rights throughout Mesa and Arizona. His negotiations with McDonnell Douglas (now Boeing) convinced the company to locate in Mesa. Mesa Fire and Medical is a model of efficiency and innovation today because of the groundwork that Mayor Strauch did during his time as mayor. He saw Mesa libraries as a vital community asset and worked to improve them.

Mayor Strauch's optimism, pragmatism and sincere belief in the greatness of Mesa and its citizens were always at the center of his work. He had the strength to put partisan issues aside and work with a diverse group of community partners during an important time in Mesa's growth. His humility and pragmatism are leadership examples that we can all learn from in our work as Members of Congress.

Mayor Strauch died on January 11, 2016 after complications from a fall. He leaves behind his beloved wife Chris, his partner in all things for over 66 years, his daughter Christy and a large and loving family. Members, please join me in extending condolences to Mayor Strauch's family and the City of Mesa on the inconsolable loss of this extraordinary man. Mayor Strauch will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by everyone whose life was made better because of his selfless contributions.

COACH JOSEPH—COACH OF THE YEAR

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Katy High School's head football coach, Gary Joseph, for being named MaxPreps National Football Coach of the Year.

Gary Joseph has been with Katy High School for 34 years, 22 of those years as assistant head coach and defensive coordinator and the last 12 as head coach. Coach Joseph started his coaching career at Luling High School, where he coached the Luling football program to its first district championship in over 20 years. This season, he led Katy to 16–0 and its eighth state championship. Coach Joseph's career record stands at 168–14 with 11 district titles and four state titles with the Katy Tigers. We are extremely proud of Coach Joseph and his team.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Coach Gary Joseph for all of his success and hard work.

HONORING THE WASKOM HIGH SCHOOL WILDCATS, 2015 3-A, DIV II TEXAS STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize today the great accomplishment of the Waskom Wildcats football team, a team which—for the second year in a row—has captured the title of Class 3A Division II Texas State Football Champions.

The Wildcats' winning season culminated with their thirty-first consecutive win, a stellar streak they began during their 2014 championship season. Waskom ended this 2015 season undefeated with a perfect 16–0 record.

The Waskom Wildcats were eager for a rematch with the only team to beat them in the prior season, and began their run to the title by toppling a talented team from Center with a 34–22 victory. Equally satisfying victories followed, as the Wildcats pounced on teams from all over east Texas in their quest to secure a spot in the championship.

The state championship game found the Waskom Wildcats in a tangle with the Franklin Lions. The Wildcats rallied from an early deficit to take the lead at halftime, then a drive to a second consecutive state championship with a decisive 33–21 final score.

The life lessons learned about teamwork and discipline will no doubt improve every participant in immeasurable ways.

My heartfelt congratulations are extended to Athletic Director and Head Football Coach Whitney Keeling and his staff including Coaches Jeremy Kubiak, Greg Pearson, Gary Wilson, Jeff Lyles, Vincent Lee, David Higginbotham, Matt Goode, Justin Watson, Frank Crisp, Joe Williams, and Lorenza Thomas; also, Managers Isaac Irving, Cameron